

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. When strikethrough cannot easily be perceived, or when five or fewer characters are deleted, [[double brackets]] are used to show the deletion. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1-4 and 6 and ADD new claims 7 and 8 in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A point-service system that can be accessed by a customer ~~who uses~~ using a terminal device via a network, the system comprising:

~~a point database for recording the~~ a number of points accumulated for a customer, the points being issued by one or more point-usable facilities;

a use management database recording identifying information of the customer, a number of reserved points, a recognition code, and information indicating whether the number of reserved points is used;

~~means for issuing a~~ the recognition code for usable number of points the number of reserved points in accordance with a use request with ~~the usable number of points~~ the number of reserved points from ~~a the~~ customer; ~~and~~

~~means for recording the issued recognition code~~ along with the usable number of points the number of reserved points in the use management database; and

means for transmitting data of a point use ticket, comprising the number of reserved points that are issued and the recognition code for the number of reserved points, to the terminal device for use of the point use ticket by the customer.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The point-service system according to claim 1, further comprising:

~~a use management database for recording an identifying information of a customer, a number of reserved points and the recognition code along with information indicating whether the number of reserved points is used or not;~~

means for referring to the use management database ~~so as to answer a~~ provide information to the one or more point-usable facility about facilities regarding whether the number of reserved points is usable ~~or not~~ in accordance with a reference request along with the number of reserved points and the recognition code ~~from~~ from the one or more point-usable facility facilities; and

means for recording that the number of reserved points of the reference request is used in ~~the~~ a corresponding field of information indicating whether the number of reserved points is used, ~~or not provided in the use management database,~~ when the number of reserved points is set to be usable.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The point-service system according to claim 1, further comprising:

means for subtracting the number of reserved points₁ for which the recognition code is issued₁ from the accumulated number of points, ~~so as to record~~ and recording the remaining number of points as a new accumulated number of points in the point database;

means for referring to the use management database in accordance with a cancel request with the recognition code from the customer, ~~so as to invalidate the recognition code~~ when the information indicating whether the number of reserved points is used₁ ~~or not~~ corresponding which corresponds to the recognition code₁ indicates unused; and

means for adding the number of points for the invalidated recognition code to the accumulated number of points for the customer, ~~so as to record the added number of points as~~ a new accumulated number of points in the point database.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The point-service system according to claim 3, wherein the point database ~~includes~~ comprises a customer point database provided for ~~each~~ the customer,

the number of points for each point-usable-~~issuing~~ facility that issued the points and the identifying information of ~~the~~ each point-usable-~~issuing~~ facility are recorded in the customer point database, and

the operations of subtracting the number of reserved points for which the recognition code is issued and of adding the number of points for the invalidated recognition code are executed for the number of points that is recorded in the customer point database.

5. (ORIGINAL) The point-service system according to claim 1, further comprising means for transmitting a use request display for the customer to view the accumulated number of points and to input the number of reserved points to the terminal device of the customer.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A recording medium storing a program for a point-service system that can be accessed by a customer ~~who uses~~ using a terminal device via a network, the program enabling a computer to execute ~~the~~ a process comprising the steps of:

entering, by the customer, a number of reserved points on a display of the terminal device;

issuing a recognition code for ~~a~~ the number of reserved points, in accordance with a point use request by the customer, along with the number of ~~reserve~~ reserved points from the customer;

recording the issued recognition code with the number of reserved points; ~~and~~

subtracting the number of reserved points from ~~the~~ an accumulated number of points for the customer, ~~so as to record~~ and recording the remaining number of points as a new accumulated number of points;

transmitting data of a point use ticket, comprising the number of reserved points that are issued and the recognition code for the number of reserved points, to the terminal device; and

displaying the point use ticket on the display of the terminal device to allow the customer to print the point use ticket for use by the customer.

7. (NEW) A point-service system that can be accessed by a customer using a terminal device via a network, the system comprising:

a point database recording a number of points accumulated for a customer, the points being issued by one or more point-usable facilities;

a use management database recording identifying information of the customer, a number of reserved points, a recognition code, and information indicating whether the number of reserved points is used;

a recognition code issuing unit issuing the recognition code for the number of reserved points in accordance with a use request with the number of reserved points from the customer;

a recording unit recording the issued recognition code along with the number of reserved points in the use management database; and

a transmitting unit transmitting data of a point use ticket, comprising the number of reserved points that are issued and the recognition code for the number of reserved points, to the terminal device for use of the point use ticket by the customer.

8. (NEW) A method of issuing points in a point-service system that can be accessed by a customer using a terminal device via a network, the method comprising:

entering, by the customer, a number of reserved points on a display of the terminal device;

issuing a recognition code for the number of reserved points, in accordance with a point use request by the customer, along with the number of reserved points from the customer;

recording the issued recognition code with the number of reserved points;

subtracting the number of reserved points from an accumulated number of points for the customer, and recording the remaining number of points as a new accumulated number of points;

transmitting data of a point use ticket, comprising the number of reserved points that are issued and the recognition code for the number of reserved points, to the terminal device; and

displaying the point use ticket on the display of the terminal device to allow the customer to print the point use ticket for use by the customer.